

NEWS RELEASE

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**DeNUCCI SAYS NORTHAMPTON VENDOR TO RETURN
\$656,000 IN STATE FUNDS AS A RESULT OF AUDIT**

State Auditor Joe DeNucci said today that Tapestry Health Systems Inc. of Northampton has reached a resolution with the state Department of Public Health under which it will return \$656,795 in state funds as a result of issues identified in a DeNucci audit.

DeNucci's 1999 audit of Tapestry, formerly known as the Family Planning Council of Western Massachusetts, Inc., had disclosed more than \$2.1 million in questionable, inappropriate, unnecessary and unreasonable costs. Tapestry is a non-profit agency that provides comprehensive health care services throughout Western Massachusetts.

As a result of the subsequent audit resolution process, DPH has approved a corrective action plan by which Tapestry will return \$656,795, of which \$579,610 will be made in payments to the department over a 10-year period and another \$77,185 will be returned in the form of in-kind services. As a result, Tapestry has regained pre-qualified status for future DPH community health care funding.

DeNucci commended the Department of Public Health for reaching this resolution with Tapestry Health Systems regarding the issues that were identified in his audit.

"I am pleased that our audit assisted the Department of Public Health in reaching a resolution," DeNucci said. "I trust that Tapestry will implement the improvements in its financial management that will enable it to better serve its clients."

